

Achievements stack up early

In this round up:

Agriculture Armenia
Education Environment
Taxes

Agriculture

Glassy-winged Sharpshooter

Rep. Nunes led a delegation effort to secure additional funding for the eradication of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter and Pierce's Disease.

Mr. Nunes received official notification from the Office of Management and Budget that his request for Commodity Credit Corp. funding to combat the Glassy-winged Sharp-



shooter had been approved in the amount of \$8.8 million. Additionally, funding was included in the appropriations process bringing the total funding level to about \$26.1 million.

Bovine Tuberculosis

Mr. Nunes also led a delegation effort to secure an additional \$70 million in Commodity Credit Corp. funds to help eradicate bovine tuberculosis in California beef and dairy herds. The disease is a major threat to the economy of the Central Valley and throughout the state. In addition, the congress-

man advocated—along with Rep. Bill Thomas—for the funding of another dairy de-population request in Tulare County. By February 1st, the USDA had advanced the issue to the Secretary's level, where it is currently undergoing review.

Dairy Regulatory Issue

Mr. Nunes led a national effort to address a federal loophole in the milk marketing orders for Arizona-Las Vegas. This loophole permits Producer-Distributor's in Arizona to ship "Class 1" milk into California without participating in the California order, or the federal order. Language was originally included in the omnibus appropriations bill to address this issue. However, it was removed. Mr. Nunes moved to restore the language prior to passage of the bill. As of February 1, Rep. Nunes had built a diverse coalition of representatives in support of closing this loophole and sent a letter to Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Henry Bonilla with the signatures of 11 other congressman, including all of the members of the Ag Committee from California.

Methyl Bromide Freeze

Mr. Nunes sent a letter to Committee on Energy and Commerce Chairman Billy Tauzin requesting his assistance in addressing the phase-out of methyl bromide use in the United States. In the letter, Mr. Nunes supported a freeze in further reductions at the 2002 level, noting that further reduc-

tions will result in a loss of \$446 million to the U.S. agriculture economy.

Armenia

Mr. Nunes cosponsored legislation calling on U.S. officials to grant Permanent Normal Trade Relations with Armenia.

In other business, Mr. Nunes said in a letter to the State Department that he believes that the United States needs to continue development assistance to Armenia. He said that after reviewing U.S. programs in Armenia and elsewhere around the world, there is no better private organization implementing U.S. assistance than the **Armenian Technology Group (ATG), a Fresno-based organization.**

Education

Mr. Nunes co-sponsored H.R. 13, the **Museum and Library Services Act of 2003**. This legislation will provide \$242 million for Library and Museum programs throughout the country. California will be allotted \$16.2 million for entrepreneurial grants and for local library and museum projects. This money will benefit those who use programs such as the California Campaign for Libraries, which has the CA Public Library Video Network; the Grapes of Wrath reading program; Live Homework Help; Public Library

See Accomplishments page 6

Rep. Nunes joins caucuses to focus on issues

Congressional Caucus to Fight and Control Methamphetamine

Meth Caucus Goals:

To raise national awareness of the dangers posed by methamphetamine abuse; develop strong public policy to fight against methamphetamine manufacturing, distribution and use.

Congressional Wine Caucus

Wine Caucus Goals:

Ensure that Members of Congress learn more about the challenges of growing grapes and making wine; educate and engage Members of Congress in legislative and regulatory matters pertaining to wine and grape issues.

Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues

Armenian Caucus Goal:

An informal organization of Members of Congress who share a concern for a stronger U.S.-Armenia relationship.

Hispanic Issues

Rep. Nunes joined the Hispanic Conference which is made up of members concerned about Hispanic and Portuguese issues.

Farmer Cooperatives Caucus

Rep. Nunes joined the relatively new congressional caucus that promises to serve as a think-tank style advisory body on cooperative issues relating to the U.S. farm economy.